501.39981CX1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): OGAWA, et al

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed:

November 14, 2003

For:

LOAD BALANCING STORAGE SYSTEM

Group:

2186

Examiner:

S. Elmore

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 & 1.98

MS DD

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 November 14, 2003

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted with the following citation as specified in 37 CFR §1.97(d).

"A copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in an Information Disclosure Statement is not required to be provided if it was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, provided that the prior application is properly identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. §120."

Applicant(s) are submitting herewith a copy of Form PTO-1449 which list documents cited in parent application(s) Serial No. 09/836,458, filed April 18, 2001.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (501.39981CX1) please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTY. DOCKET NO. SERIAL NO. FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce (Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark 501.39981CX1 Not yet assigned Office **APPLICANT** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE OGAWA, et al STATEMENT BY APPLICANT **GROUP FILING DATE** (Use several sheets if necessary) November 14, 2003 2186 **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** EXAMINER INITIAL FILING DATE DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE NAME CLASS SUBCLASS 9 8 8 2 8 4/99 Pignolet et al 714 6 0 0 6 4 5 6 11/00 Vishilitsky et al 709 229 6 1 9 2 0 2 7 2/01 370 El-Batal 222 3 9 7 2 6 7 5/02 6 Chong, Jr. 710 1 5 7 6 8 6 2 3 6/98 Judd et al 710 37 4 8 0 9 3 4 11/02 6 Hino et al 711 114 6 1 0 8 6 8 4 8/00 DeKoning et al 709 105 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS DOCUMENT NUMBER DATE COUNTRY CLASS SUBCLASS ABSTRACT YES NO 1 3 8 4 1999 1 3 6 6 Japan OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) Jurgens, "Fibre Channel: A Connection to the Future", Computer, IEEE, pp. 88-90, August 1995. **EXAMINER DATE CONSIDERED** EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citatin if not in conformanch and not considered. Include c py f this f rm with next c mmunicati n t applicant.

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])